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(54) Title: **FRAME CLASSIFICATION FOR QOS-DRIVEN WIRELESS LANS**

(57) **Abstract:** A frame classification entity (FCE) for a station in a basic service set (BSS) in a wireless local area network (WLAN) is disclosed. The FCE includes a classification table. The classification table is logically located at a logical link control (LLC) sublayer of the station, and contains at least one classifier entry. Accordingly, the station can include a point coordinator (PC) or be a non-PC station. Each classifier entry includes at least a virtual stream identifier (VSID), a search priority value, and at least one classifier parameter. Each classifier entry in the classification table is arranged in a hierarchical order based on the search priority value included in the classifier entry. The FCE receives at least one data frame passed down to the LLC sublayer of the station from a higher layer in the station. The FCE then classifies each received data frame to a VSID by examining the data frame against the classification table of the station. When the data frame is examined and the VSID of the data frame is contained in a classifier entry of the classification table, the VSID is associated with a QoS parameter set for transporting the data frame between peer LLC entities of the BSS. When the frame classification information contained in a received data frame is not included in any classifier entry in the classification table, result of classification is expressed in a special VSID that is not associated with a QoS parameter set and the data frame is transported between peer LLC entities of the BSS on a best-effort basis.

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